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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

Edward D. DiPrete
Governor

John S. Renza
Director

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - FEBRUARY 1990

Total Rhode Island establishment employment rose slightly in the January-February period to a level of 454,100, mainly the result of gains in the Service industry and the Durable Goods manufacturing sector which more than offset seasonal declines in Construction and Trade. Although the February job total represents a monthly gain of 500, it is 100 below the year ago figure of 454,200.

Overall employment in the Goods Producing sector increased by 400 over the month to 124,500, which reflects a decrease of 2,800 from the February 1989 level. Contract Construction jobs continued to decline seasonally (-100) dropping to 17,600 in February. Total factory employment, at 106,900, rebounded somewhat in February posting a monthly increase of 500. The February manufacturing total is, however, 2,400 below the comparable 1989 figure. Manufacturers of Durable Goods reported a monthly upturn of 500 while employment in Nondurable Goods showed no overall change. The largest monthly job increase occurred in Jewelry-Silverware (+300) followed by smaller gains of 100 each in Primary Metals, the Miscellaneous Manufacturing segment and Textiles. Employment in Leather Products registered the only downturn (-100) from last month. Employment levels in the remaining fourteen industrial categories - seven each in Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods - were unchanged from January.

The February work week averaged 39.7 hours up 0.1 of an hour from last month and 0.2 of an hour from a year ago. Production workers averaged $9.29 in February, down 1 cent from January but up 35 cents compared to February 1989.

Employment among the state's Service Producing industries totalled 329,600 in February, up 100 from January and 2,700 from a year ago. Monthly job gains were recorded in Services (+300), Government (+200) and Transportation/Public Utilities (+100). Trade employment fell seasonally (-500) in the January-February period while Finance/Insurance/Real Estate jobs showed no change from last month.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 6.6 percent in February, up 0.2 of a percentage point from January. For the same period, the state's unadjusted rate rose from 6.4 to 7.2 percent.

One year ago the seasonally adjusted and unadjusted rates stood at 3.3 and 3.6 percent, respectively. The February jobless total increased to 37,700 from the previous month's estimate of 33,700.

Nationally, the civilian unadjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 of a percent to 5.8 in February while the seasonally adjusted rate was unchanged from the January estimate of 5.3 percent.

"WE'VE MOVED"

The central offices of the Rhode Island Department of Employment and Training, including the Labor Market Information unit which produces this Employment Bulletin, have moved from 24 Mason Street, Providence, R.I. to:

Jesse Metcalf Building
101 Friendship Street
Providence, R.I. 02903-3740

The Providence Employment and Training (formerly Job Service) and the Providence Unemployment Insurance Benefits offices occupy the first floor of the Metcalf building, along with the branch office of the Massachusetts Department of Employment and Training. The Temporary Disability Insurance Division of the department as well as the Appeals Board of Review are on the second floor. The various units dealing with employer registration and taxation matters and the department's administration offices are located on the third and fourth floors, respectively.

Telephone numbers for these and all other units previously locatd at 24 Mason Street, Providence remain the same.

We look forward to providing continuing service from our new location to Rhode Island's employer community and the citizens of our state.

EMPLOYERS!
HELP YOURSELF BY HELPING YOUTH THIS SUMMER

This summer you can give a young person the chance of a lifetime - for a lifetime of success!

Your firm or business can save in taxes by taking a credit for hiring young people into summer jobs. Again in 1990 the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit program allows you to give youngsters an opportunity for a job and give your business a tax break at the same time.

By hiring an eligible young person between May 1 and September 15 you can earn a tax credit of 40% of the first $3,000 paid in wages to each eligible employee.

To be eligible for the tax credit, the young person you hire must be:

- 16 - 17 years of age
- Economically disadvantaged
- First-time employee of your company
- Employed a minimum of 14 days or 20 hours

The Targeted Jobs Tax Credit program is different and it's easy. Only two simple forms are used to establish the new worker's eligibility for the credit. The Rhode Island Job Service will do the determination for you. List your TJTC Summer Youth job orders with the Rhode Island Job Service at 277-3588.

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
24 Mason Street
Providence, R.I. 02903-1082

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Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact RESEARCH AND STATISTICS at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

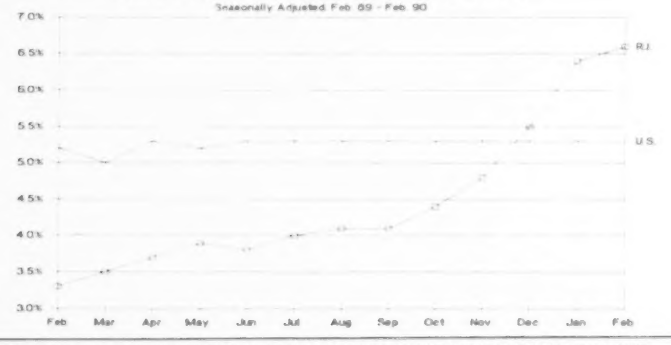
	February 1990	January* 1990	February* 1989	
Civilian Labor Force	521.9	526.4	513.5	
Resident Employment	484.2	492.7	495.2	
Unemployment	37.7	33.7	18.3	
Rate (Unadjusted)	7.2	6.4	3.6	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	6.6	6.4	3.3	*Revised

UNITED STATES

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	February 1990	January 1990	February 1989
Civilian Labor Force	123,442	123,293	121,906
Resident Employment	116,308	116,037	115,023
Unemployment	7,134	7,256	6,883
Rate (Unadjusted)	5.8	5.9	5.6
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	5.3	5.3	5.2

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands) Feb 1990	Jan 1990	Feb 1989	NET CHANGE FROM Jan 1990	Feb 1989
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	454.1	453.6	454.2	+ 500	- 100
GOODS PRODUCING	124.5	124.1	127.3	+ 400	- 2,800
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	17.6	17.7	18.0	- 100	- 400
MANUFACTURING	106.9	106.4	109.3	+ 500	- 2,400
SERVICE PRODUCING	329.6	329.5	326.9	+ 100	+ 2,700
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15.0	14.9	15.1	+ 100	- 100
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	104.8	105.3	104.4	- 500	+ 400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	26.6	26.6	26.6	0	0
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	123.5	123.2	121.2	+ 300	+ 2,300
GOVERNMENT	59.7	59.5	59.6	+ 200	+ 100

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

February 1990

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	106.9	368.81	39.7	9.29
DURABLE MFG.	72.6	364.45	39.4	9.25
LUMBER/FURNITURE	3.1	441.34	39.3	11.23
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.4	489.21	40.7	12.02
PRIMARY METALS	4.2	413.71	40.6	10.19
FABRICATED METALS	9.1	336.78	38.8	8.68
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.8	464.51	41.4	11.22
ELECTRICAL MACH.	6.6	351.62	39.2	8.97
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	8.2	499.80	42.0	11.90
INSTRUMENTS	7.3	402.06	42.1	9.55
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	20.9	288.78	38.3	7.54
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	6.0	296.21	36.3	8.15
NONDURABLE MFG.	34.3	376.14	40.1	9.38
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.9	351.43	39.8	8.83
TEXTILES	9.2	329.60	40.0	8.24
APPAREL	1.7	321.94	40.7	7.91
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.2	354.71	40.4	8.78
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	6.7	450.82	37.6	11.99
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.0	479.34	41.9	11.44
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.8	358.55	39.1	9.17
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.9	431.19	41.5	10.39
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.9	284.49	40.7	6.99

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.